

**SURGICAL
PRINCIPLES AND
MINOR SURGERY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649716654

Surgical Principles and Minor Surgery by J. G. Gilchrist

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

J. G. GILCHRIST

**SURGICAL
PRINCIPLES AND
MINOR SURGERY**

SURGICAL PRINCIPLES

AND

MINOR SURGERY.

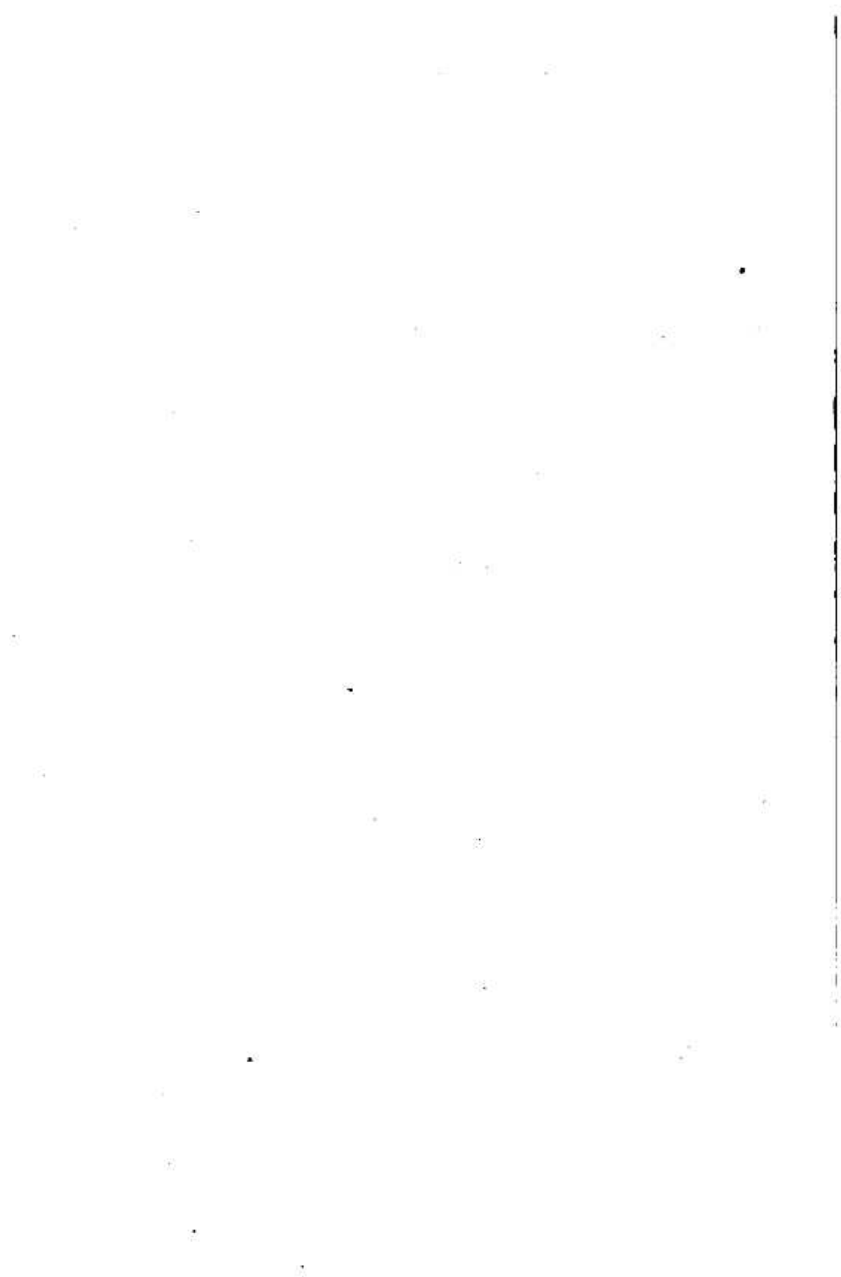
BY J. G. GILCHRIST, M. D.,

FORMERLY LECTURER ON SURGERY IN THE HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN; FIRST PRESIDENT AND RECORDER OF
THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF MICHIGAN; FOR-
MERLY SURGEON TO THE DETROIT HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL;
AUTHOR OF THE HOMOEOPATHIC TREATMENT OF SUR-
GICAL DISEASES; RULES FOR FINDING AND
TYING THE PRINCIPAL ARTERIES; A
SYLLABUS OF LECTURES ON
SURGERY, ETC., ETC.

CHICAGO:
DUNCAN BROTHERS.
1881.

Copyrighted by
DUNCAN BROTHERS.
1881.

STUDENTS OF MEDICINE,
TO WHOM
THE FUTURE
OF HOMOEOPATHY,
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
CHIRURGIC ART, IS ENTRUSTED. WITH
THE HOPE THAT MY LABORS MAY ASSIST THEM IN
THE PROSECUTION OF THEIR STUDIES,
THIS LITTLE MANUAL IS
DEDICATED AND
INSCRIBED
BY
THE AUTHOR.



PREFACE.

When the last edition of an exceedingly defective book—Surgical Diseases—became exhausted, my publishers supposed that a new and improved one would be well received, and suggested the revision and re-writing of the work. The errors, inaccuracies, and crudities of the old edition, however, were soon found to be so numerous, that it was impossible to use to advantage any portion of the text, or even to follow the arrangement of the original work. As the work progressed, it was made apparent that to include accidents, and purely mechanical treatment of the morbid processes referred to, would greatly increase the size of the volume, and necessitate a very imperfect discussion of highly important conditions. It was decided, therefore, to complete that volume on a pathological and therapeutical plan, as far as the limits would permit, reserving purely traumatic conditions for a separate treatise. Inasmuch as the change in arrangement would leave something elementary and preparatory desirable, the present volume was prepared.

Considering the present volume, then, as the initial volume of a series on surgical topics, a scheme has been arranged with some reference to an ideal collegiate course of instruction, embracing four volumes, at least, if not five. That such a division of topics is not artificial, it is only necessary to consider the scope of each volume, and the demand the age makes upon our schools for medical education.

The *first year* of a student's life finds him without any

knowledge of the scope of medical study, entirely uninformed of the demands to be made upon him, and frequently unfamiliar with the language of the science or the art. The custom so long prevailing of opening the surgical course with the consideration of inflammation, a topic that cannot be understood without a comprehensive knowledge of the physiological processes of waste and repair, and the elements, at least, of surgical pathology, is unwise to a degree. Under the old methods of teaching this seems to be unavoidable, and now that better counsels prevail, and the necessity for medical reform is admitted on all hands, it is proper that the ground be carefully surveyed and an attempt made to inaugurate systematic methods. The first year of pupilage, therefore, in surgical instruction, should be purely elementary, include only such topics as are comparatively free from technicalities, and necessary to a proper understanding of what is to follow. This would include a discussion of the functions, amenities, and responsibilities of the surgeon, the elements of diagnosis and prognosis, the manufacture and application of the various dressings used in surgical practice, and the performance of minor operations, such as require no particular skill or extensive surgical knowledge. These being thoroughly mastered, the student will be prepared to proceed further.

The *second year* will find the student not only well informed in the elements of surgery, but it is supposed that his studies in other departments have taught him the leading facts in physiology, we are enabled to introduce him to a more scientific investigation, and will take up surgical pathology and therapeutics, as foreshadowed in the second volume of the series, *Surgical Therapeutics*. We here discuss the process and termination of inflammation, as well as

the various abnormalities, the method of production of neoplasms, as well as all conditions not purely traumatic, both of a general and local character.

In the *third year* the foundation is laid for the crowning duties of the surgeon's calling, by a study of traumatism in all of its varying phases, both primary and remote effects, methods and explanation of æsthesia, and some consideration of the legal responsibility of surgical practitioners and other questions of medical jurisprudence connected with the practice of surgery.

The *fourth year*, the last of student's undergraduate life, is fittingly occupied with instruction in the application of the principles he has hitherto been taught, or operative surgery. The degree of proficiency now attained by the student, will be only limited by his own capacity for receiving, and his teacher for imparting knowledge; as far as mere principles are concerned, there should be little more to acquire, and the training received will admirably fit him to pursue his studies, post-graduate, with profit to himself to a far greater degree than could be attained by any other system or method of teaching.

To supply a text-book for each of these college years, has been my desire; the present volume being intended for the first year; the volume on *Therapeutics*, already before the profession, answering for the second, until a thorough revision can be had; a volume on *Surgical Emergencies*, now in press, for the third; and a volume of *Surgical Operations* will be prepared as a text-book for the last or fourth year.

The present volume will probably show that even in Minor Surgery there is a necessary connection with an enlightened system of therapeutics. There are unquestionably many omissions, particularly of topics that we have been